

## Capsule Summary

SM-569

St. Mary's Auto Company Garage

Leonardtown

Private

c. 1916-1917

The St. Mary's Auto Company Garage and Store is a significant two-and-a-half story frame commercial building located on the west side of Lawrence Avenue in Leonardtown, St. Mary's County Maryland. Constructed c. 1916-1917, the stucco-covered garage and store has important associations with the growing importance of the automobile in Leonardtown during the early-twentieth century. The building served as both a showroom and repair facility for automobiles as well as farming implements. In 1925 the St. Mary's Auto and Implement Company dissolved and the garage and store was used by Barnard I. Smith as an all purpose plumbing, electrical, and hardware supply and repair store. Smith also sold appliances such as radios and televisions. According to Edward Stokel, Smith sold the first television in St. Mary's County in 1948 out of the store. In 1967 Barnard Smith died and the building has since fallen into disuse and is in an advanced state of neglect. Despite this, the building still retains much of its original fabric including its fenestration, original clapboard beneath the stucco, and its overall form.

SM-569, St. Mary's Auto Company Garage  
St. Mary's County  
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:	Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period:	Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Historic Period Theme:	Architecture Commerce

Resource Type

Category:	Building
Historic Environment:	Town
Historic Function and Use:	Garage, Store
Known Design Source:	None

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. SM-569

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic St. Mary's Auto Company Garage

and/or common

**2. Location**

W side of the intersection of Park and Lawrence Avenues  
street & number

☐ not for publication

city, town Leonardtown

☐ vicinity of

congressional district 3

state Maryland

county St. Mary's

TM 133, P 227

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert Christopher Goldsborough and Francis Allen Tennyson

street & number PO Box 191

telephone no.: (301) 373-8557

city, town Hollywood

state and zip code Md 20636-0191

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse

liber EWA 691

street & number

folio 89

city, town Leonardtown

state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. SM-569

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☒ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing resource count: 1

The St. Mary's Auto Company Garage is located on the west side of Lawrence Avenue and perpendicular to the intersection of Lawrence and Park Avenues. Oriented on a north-south axis, the garage is situated on a relatively flat lot and setback only a few feet from Lawrence Avenue. The garage is bounded on the east by Lawrence Avenue, to the north by the Southern Maryland Bottling Company building (SM-567), and to the west and south by the Tudor Hall Farm.

The St. Mary's Auto Company Garage, constructed c. 1916-1917, is a two-and-a-half-story, gable front, stucco covered, commercial building with a gable roof, a one story wing and a long rear garage. The building's foundation is obscured by the stucco, but patches of the stucco have been removed to reveal an original clapboard covered circular sawn frame. The cornice is enclosed and the roof is sheathed with corrugated metal. The building is vacant and in a dilapidated state.

The primary or east elevation features several boarded up doors and windows on both the main section and wing. While the windows are not visible, two three-panel and single light doors remain intact. The main section's second floor consists of four, two-over-two, double-hung sash windows, two of which have been bordered up. The half-story features two, two-over-two windows over the middle two bays of the second floor.

The other elevations and interior were not investigated.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. SM-569

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The St. Mary's Auto Company Garage and Store is a significant commercial building located on the west side of Lawrence Avenue in Leonardtown, St. Mary's County Maryland. Constructed c. 1916–1917, the stucco-covered garage and store has important associations with the growing importance of the automobile in Leonardtown during the early-twentieth century. The building served as both a showroom and repair facility for automobiles as well as farming implements. In 1925 the St. Mary's Auto and Implement Company dissolved and the garage and store was used by Barnard I. Smith as an all purpose plumbing, electrical, and hardware supply and repair store. Smith also sold appliances such as radios and televisions. According to Edward Stokel, Smith sold the first television in St. Mary's County in 1948 out of the store. In 1967 Barnard Smith died and the building has since fallen into disuse and is in an advanced state of neglect. Despite this, the building still retains much of its original fabric including its fenestration, original clapboard beneath the stucco, and its overall form. The building survives as an example of Leonardtown's commercial importance in the early-twentieth century.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-569

Interview, Edward Stokel, March, 1997.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .45 acres

Quadrangle name Leonardtown, Md

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting		Northing					

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting		Northing					

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization St. Mary's County Department of Planning and Zoning date April 1997

street &amp; number 22740 Washington Street telephone (301) 475-4662

city or town Leonardtown state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

## SM-569, St. Mary's Auto Company Garage

St. Mary's County

### 8.1 Significance

#### Chain-of-Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Deed Reference: Liber EWA 691, Folio 89

Grantee: Robert Christopher Goldsborough and Francis Allen Tennyson

Grantor: Suzanne Henderson, et al

Date: June 24, 1992

Notes: Goldsborough and Tennyson purchased the .45 acre property for \$50,000. The property is noted as being located at the intersection of Fenwick Street and Lawrence Avenue. The deed also notes that Barnard I. Smith died intestate April 27, 1967 leaving the tract to his wife and two daughters.

Deed Reference: Liber JMM 11, Folio 499

Grantee: Barnard I. Smith

Grantor: J. Allan and Clara C. Coad

Date: July 27, 1967

Notes: The property is listed as part of two parcels. Parcel #1=1/4 acre, Parcel #2=1 rod and 2.96 sq. perches. A garage is also mentioned as being located on the property.

Deed Reference: Liber JMM 3, Folio 439

Grantee: J. Allan and Clara C. Coad

Grantor: J. H. T. Briscoe and Benjamin H. Duke, receivers

Date: November 27, 1925

Notes: As a result of the dissolution of the St. Mary's Auto and Implement Company Incorporated (Circuit Court Case No 1457 NE, February 18, 1925) the "Garage Property" is sold at auction.

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 19, Folio 284

Grantee: St. Mary's Auto and Implement Company, Incorporated

Grantor: J. Allan Coad and Thomas A. McKay, St. Mary's Auto and Supply Company

Date: October 14, 1920

Notes: This deed notes that two lots are combined.

#### Parcel 1

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 17, Folio 525

Grantee: J. Allan Coad and Thomas A. McKay

Grantor: Edward J. and Emily H. Waring and George E. and Emma O. Hamilton

Date: February 5, 1919

Notes: This 1/4 acre tract is listed as containing a garage.

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 17, Folio 524

Grantee: Edward J. and Emily H. Waring and George E. and Emma O. Hamilton

Grantor: J. Allan Coad

Date: September 8, 1917



SM-569, St. Mary's Auto Company Garage

St. Mary's County

8.2 Significance

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 15, Folio 432

Grantee: J. Allan Coad and Bowes Hodges, St. Mary's Auto Company

Grantor: Cecelia C. Roberts

Date: October 17, 1916

Notes: Bowes Hodges later conveyed his interest in the property to J. Allan Coad.

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 13, Folio 140

Grantee: Cecelia C. Roberts

Grantor: Asa A. and Anna G. Lawrence

Date: November 12, 1914

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 8, Folio 172

Grantee: Asa A. and Anna G. Lawrence

Grantor: Daniel C. and Irene F. Hammett

Date: November 6, 1909

Note: Here the property is listed as containing 1/2 acre.

Deed Reference: Liber JFF 9, Folio 71

Grantee: Irene F. Hammett

Grantor: Joseph and Cora B. Key

Date: April 21, 1886

Notes: The 1/2 property is a part of the Tudor Hall Estate.

Parcel 2

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 17, Folio 525

Grantee: J. Allan Coad and Thomas A. McKay, St. Mary's Auto and Supply Company

Grantor: Charles W. and Agnes S. Foxwell

Date: February 5, 1919

Notes: This parcel consists of 1 rod, 2.96 sq perches of land.

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 17, Folio 146

Grantee: Charles W. and Agnes S. Foxwell

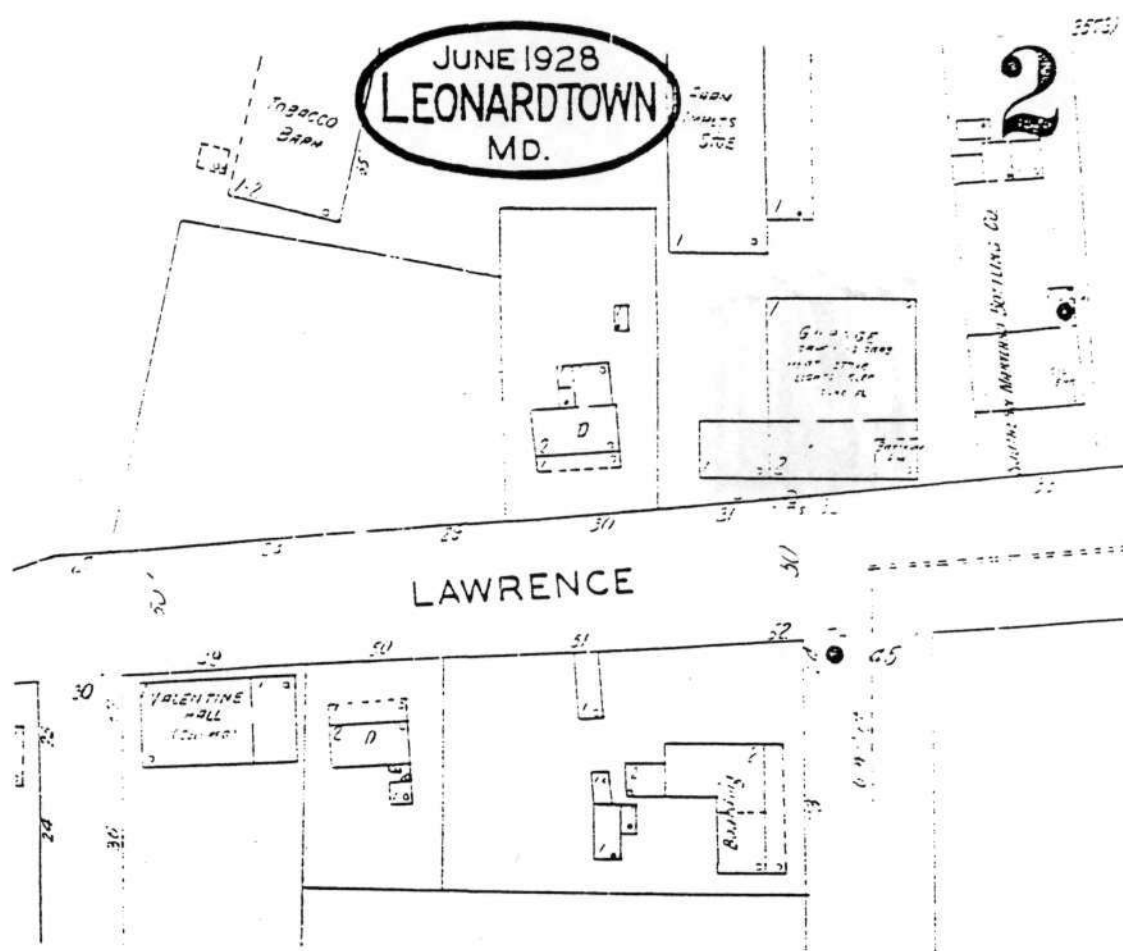
Grantor: L. Allison Wilmer and Joseph H. Ching, Trustees

Date: May 23, 1918

Notes: As a result of the circuit court case between the Eastern Shore Trust Company and Frank D. Lawrence the property was sold at auction. (Circuit Court Case No. 1275)



SM-569, St. Mary's Auto Company Garage  
St. Mary's County  
8.3 Significance



1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the St. Mary's Auto Company Garage.



SM-569

DEMOLISHED

St. Mary's Auto Company Garage, site  
Park & Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown  
Sanborn Map 1928, Sheet 2



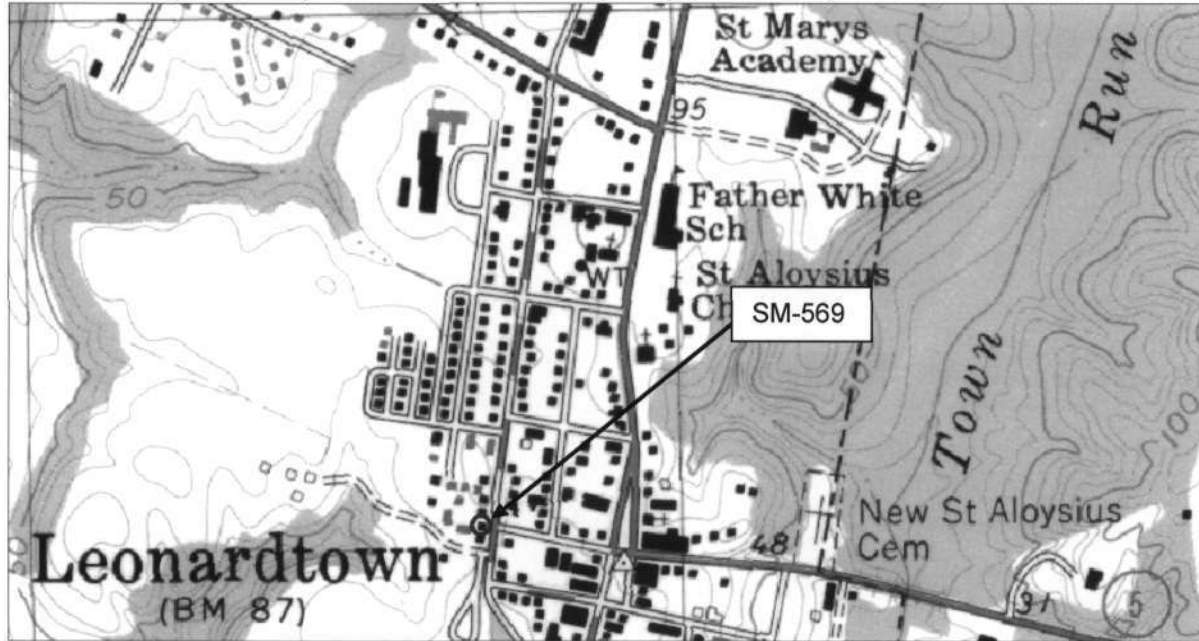
SM-569

DEMOLISHED

St. Mary's Auto Company Garage, site

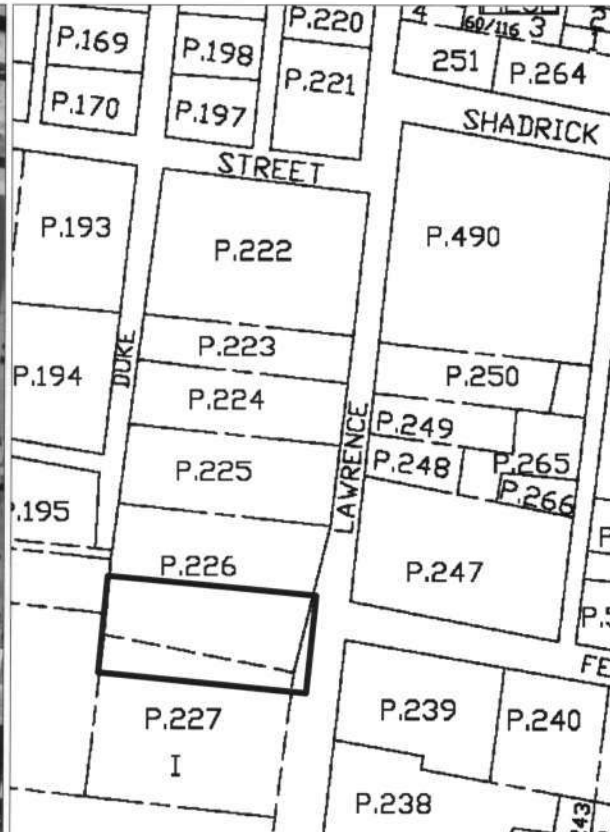
Park & Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown

Leonardtown quad 1963 (Photorevised 1984, Bathymetry added 1982)



National Web Map Service 6" Orthophoto Map,  
c. 2007-08

Tax Map 133, P. 226







SM-569

St. Mary's Auto Company Garage

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

Nov/96

MD SHPO

Elevation

1 of 1